

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 EB-11 LAB-06 PA-04 SIL-01

PRS-01 DRC-01 TRSE-00 /061 W

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O R 241811Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4301

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USDOC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, SENV, FR, EEC

SUBJECT: FRENCH PARTICIPATION IN SPOKANE EXPOSITION

REF: PARIS 27282

1. REPORTS HAVE REACHED US THAT PARIS REPRESENTATIVES OF CERTAIN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS, SEEKING TO CONFIRM GOF DECISION TO PARTICIPATE IN SPOKANE EXPOSITION, HAVE FOUND FRENCH OFFICIALS UNAWARE OF THIS DECISION. CONSEQUENTLY, ECON MIN SOUGHT CLARIFICATION FROM BRUNET, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, MFA. BRUNET REAFFIRMED GOF DECISION. HE SAID THE DECISION HAD BEEN MADE BY PRIME MINISTER MESSMER ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO, REVERSING AN EARLIER NEGATIVE DECISION WHICH GISCARD HAD COMMUNICATED TO SECRETARY SHULTZ.

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HOWEVER, THERE IS A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF WRANGLING GOING

ON AMONG VARIOUS FRENCH AGENCIES AS TO WHO WOULD PICK UP THE TAB. FOR EXAMPLE, THE MFA HAD BEEN ASKED TO BEAR PART OF THE COST AND WAS RESISTING. BRUNET SAID THAT THIS PROBLEM WOULD EVENTUALLY BE SETTLED SINCE THE PRIME MINISTER HAD MADE HIS DECISION BUT THAT, UNTIL IT WAS SETTLED, IT WOULD NOT BE ADVISABLE FOR FAIR OFFICIALS TO COME TO FRANCE TO DISCUSS DETAILS. CONSEQUENTLY, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE FOR KING COLE TO DEFER HIS TRIP TO PARIS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

2. WE ALSO BELIEVE IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE FOR INFO ADDRESSEES TO APPRISE APPROPRIATE CONTACTS IN HOST GOVERNMENTS OF FOREGOING AND ADVISE THAT THEY NOT PRESS THE GOF ON THIS MATTER FOR THE TIME BEING. WE SHALL KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH BRUNET AND REPORT AS SOON AS GOF HAS SORTED OUT ITS INTERNAL PROBLEMS. THIS IS NOT TO SAY WE BELIEVE INFO ADDRESSEES SHOULD RELAX THEIR EFFORTS TO PERSUADE HOST GOVERNMENTS TO PARTICIPATE. BRUNET HAS ASSURED US THAT GOF DECISION IS DEFINITIVE AND EXPRESSED NO OBJECTION WHEN WE SAID WE WERE INFORMING OTHER GOVERNMENTS OF THIS FACT.

DECON DECEMBER 31, 1976.

IRWIN

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